GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:67
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2005
UTILISATION OF V -SATELLITE
Jogi Shri Ajit

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by the Department of Post for its modernisation;

(b) the manner in which the department is making the optimum utilization of V-Satellite;

(c) the State-wise details of the centres covered by the V- Satellite in the country; and

(d) the details of commerce other than regular postal and e- postal services, the Department of Post is likely to introduce?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) The Department of Posts has taken several steps for upgradation and modernisation of postal services. About 79% of 10th Plan outlay is earmarked for various modernisation programmes. Major thrust areas for modernisation are
(i) computerisation and networking of 7700 Post Offices
(ii) setting up of two Automatic Mail Processing Centres, National Data Centre and 1116 Computerized Customer Care Centres
(iii) upgradation and modernization of Speed Post Centres and Mail Offices and
(iv) introduction of various e-enabled services.

(b) Maximum number of money orders, other than local money orders, are now transmitted through the network of 150 Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) Money Order Stations and 1429 Extended Satellite Money Order (ESMO) Stations. Currently about 65,000 money orders are transmitted daily on an average. The money order transmission software is also continuously upgraded for optimum utilization of the network.

(c) State-wise details of centres covered by V-Satellite is given in the Annexure.

(d) Introduction of new products and services is an ongoing process. Recently, the Department of Posts has introduced `Direct Post` service to cater to advertising mail, `Logistics Post` to provide an avenue for different services on value chain for larger loads, `Retail Post` to leverage the postal network and `National Bill Mail Service` to provide a cost effective mail service for sending periodic bills and statements.